

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing at least one alkylaryl compound comprising: compounds by

reacting a C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefin mixture with an aromatic hydrocarbon in the presence of an alkylation catalyst to form at least one alkyl aromatic compound; compounds and if ~~appropriate subsequently sulfonating and neutralizing the resulting alkylaryl compounds,~~

wherein, in the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins, on average, more than 0% and up to 100% of methyl branches are present in the longest carbon chain and fewer than 30% of the methyl branches are in the 2-, 3- and 4-position, calculated starting from the chain ends of the longest carbon chain; and

the alkylation catalyst is selected from the group consisting of a zeolite of the EPI structural type, a zeolite of the FER structural type, a pentasil having an MFI structure, and a pentasil having an MEL structure.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 12, wherein, in the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins, on average, from 10 to 80% of methyl branches are present in the longest hydrocarbon chain.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 12, wherein the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins in each case have a maximum of two methyl branches.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 14, wherein the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins in each case have a maximum of one methyl branch.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 12, wherein the aromatic hydrocarbon is benzene.

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A process according to claim 12, wherein the alkylation is carried out in the liquid phase at a temperature in the range from 100 to 250°C.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn - Currently Amended): An alkylaryl compound obtained ~~obtainable~~ by ~~[[a]]~~ the process according to claim 12.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): A laundry detergent or cleaning composition comprising, in addition to customary ingredients, alkylarylsulfonates according to claim 19.

Claim 21 (New): A process for preparing at least one alkylaryl compound comprising:

reacting a C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefin mixture with an aromatic hydrocarbon in the presence of an alkylation catalyst to form at least one alkyl aromatic compound; and

sulfonating and neutralizing the resulting at least one alkylaryl compound;

wherein, in the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins, on average, more than 0% and up to 100% of methyl branches are present in the longest carbon chain and fewer than 30% of the methyl branches are in the 2-, 3- and 4-position, calculated starting from the chain ends of the longest carbon chain; and

the alkylation catalyst is selected from the group consisting of a zeolite of the EPI structural type, a zeolite of the FER structural type, a pentasil having an MFI structure, and a pentasil having an MEL structure.

Claim 22 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein, in the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins, on average, from 10 to 80% of methyl branches are present in the longest hydrocarbon chain.

Claim 23 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins in each case have a maximum of two methyl branches.

Claim 24 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein the C₁₀₋₁₄-monoolefins in each case have a maximum of one methyl branch.

Claim 25 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein the aromatic hydrocarbon is benzene.

Claim 26 (New): The process according to claim 21, wherein the alkylation is carried out in the liquid phase at a temperature in the range from 100 to 250°C.

Claim 27 (New - Withdrawn): An alkylaryl compound obtained by the process according to claim 21.

Claim 28 (New - Withdrawn): A laundry detergent or cleaning composition comprising, in addition to customary ingredients, alkylarylsulfonates according to claim 27.